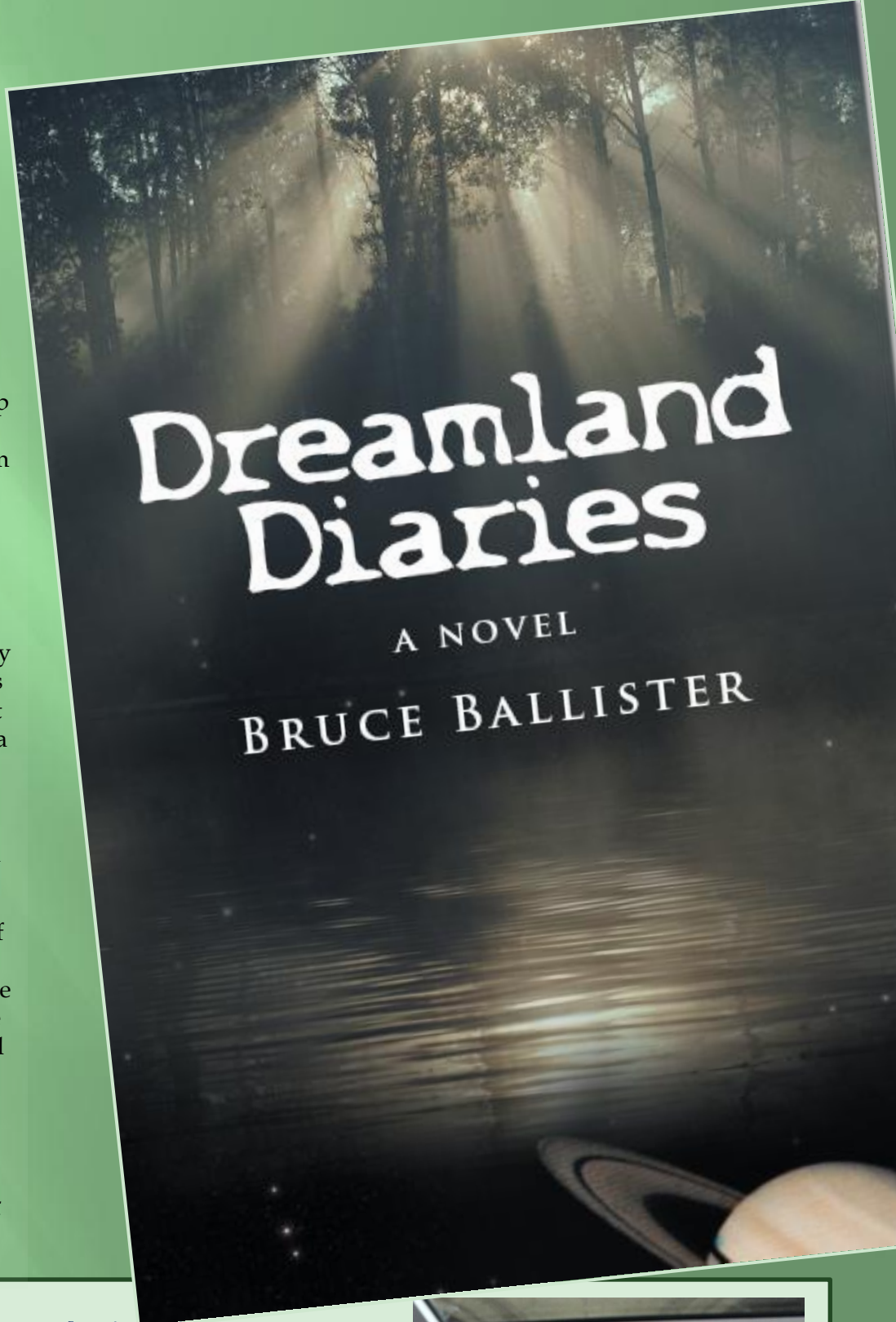


**Almost Fifteen**, Bradley Hitchens has stumbled upon a metal artifact in the Wakulla County woods that is both mysterious and, as it turns out, deadly. His father and a university geology professor face grave danger as they try to understand the secrets hidden in what Brad has found. Its truth is simple and profound but, as Brad learns, the U.S. government has a keen interest in his find and will stop at nothing to ensure that no one uncovers the secret. On the run from federal agents for years, Brad must fight for survival while trying to recover the unusual artifact that, at one point, is lost in the waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

**At twenty-three**, Brad can rely only his own wits and extended family as he struggles to safeguard the artifact until he can bring it to the public in a way that the government cannot dispute. Brad has also been protecting another deep secret – one that if found out would shake world philosophy to its foundations.

**Ballister** has had a life-long love of science, fiction, and science fiction's blend of the two. Every good science fiction requires that the reader make at least one assumption on faith, and the science must be believable in context.

## Science Fiction with a Southern Accent



## Book Reading/ Signing MEET THE AUTHOR Bruce Ballister

Woodville Branch Library  
Tuesday - December 10<sup>th</sup> 6:30

